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The above discussion has gone on the assumption that at the time customs were first enforced by the courts the principles of jurisprudence, as we know it to-day, were applicable. But even if they were not, Mr. Sadler's theory is untenable. For, in the first place, customs could not become law in the meaning of that term as the will of a sovereign State before such a State came into existence. When such a State comes into existence, that is, when the basic principles of the law become what they are at present, either the customs have been so long enforced that they may be assumed to be a part of the constitution of the State itself, or else they are not, juristically speaking, law until they are enforced by the courts. They cannot be law merely because their characteristics are such that they will be enforced by the courts of the State. So in any event the theory of the relation of custom to law offered in this book, which is substantially that of Salmond and of Hammond,¹¹ has no place in the modern science of jurisprudence, however true in fact the statements with regard to customs may be.

JAMES HART.

AN INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN LAW, by Roscoe Pound. (Cambridge, Mass.: Dunster House Bookshop, 1920, pp. 44.)

This little pamphlet consists of the outline of a course of lectures which Dean Pound, of the Harvard Law School, delivered before the Boston Trade Union College during the spring term of 1919, and should be of interest to a wide circle of readers. Dean Pound makes no attempt to make every man his own lawyer or even to tell him how to know when he needs a lawyer. The approach is much more philosophical. The lectures seek to orientate American Law in the development of jural science and to indicate the manner in which it effects "an adjustment of human actions and relations in order to conserve the goods of existence, prevent friction in human use and enjoyment of these goods and eliminate waste of them."

The subjects discussed are "Fundamental Conceptions", "History of the Common Law", "The Common Law in America", "Sources and Forms of Law" and "System of the Common Law". It would be a good thing if the content of Dean Pound's lectures could be made a part of the courses which are now offered on "Elementary Law" and "Commercial Law".

¹¹ ELEMENTS OF JURISPRUDENCE, 6th. ed., 54-55.